This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to the coding region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding human NAC (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding NAC and inhibits the expression of NAC.

Claim 2 (original): The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (original): The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

Claim 5 (original): The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 6 (original): The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

Claim 7 (original): The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

Claim 8 (original): The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

Claim 9 (original): The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

Claim 10 (original): The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

Claim 11 (original): A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length which specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site on a nucleic acid molecule encoding NAC.

Claim 12 (original): A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 13 (original): The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

Claim 14 (original): The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

Claim 15 (original): A method of inhibiting the expression of NAC in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or

tissues with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of NAC is inhibited.

Claims 16-20 (canceled).